

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-17 and 22-29 are pending. Please cancel claims 1, 3-5, 7, 10-17, and 22-29 without prejudice or disclaimer; amend claims 2, 8 and 9; and add new claims 30-33 as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing Of Claims

Claim 1 (canceled)

Claim 2 (currently amended): A receiving apparatus, which is

communicably connected to a transmitting apparatus that transmits news information that contains text, for receiving the news information from said transmitting apparatus, comprising:

receiving means for receiving the news information from said transmitting apparatus;

voice output means for outputting the text content of the received news information as ~~an audible~~ a voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information; ~~and~~

determining means, when said receiving means receives fresh news information, for determining degree of importance of the content of the fresh new information; and

display means for displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of said ~~audible~~ voice,

~~wherein the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by voice~~ said voice output means outputs the text content of the fresh news information as a voice preferentially if said determining means determines the degree of importance of the content of

the fresh news information is higher than that of the content of other news information which has already been received.

Claims 3-5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the order is capable of being set by a user.

Claim 7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (currently amended): An information processing method comprising:

a step of receiving, via a communication path, news information that contains text from a transmitting apparatus that transmits the news information;

a voice output step of outputting the text content of the received news information as ~~an audible~~ a voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information; ~~and~~

a determining step, when fresh news information is received in said receiving step, of determining degree of importance of the content of the fresh news information; and

a display step of displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of said ~~audible~~ voice,

wherein ~~the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by voice~~ the text content of the fresh news information is outputted as a voice preferentially in said voice output step if it is determined in said determining step that the degree of importance of the content of the fresh news information is higher than that of the content of other news information which has already been received.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A computer readable medium encoded with a computer readable program for causing a computer to function as the following means, wherein said computer, which is communicably connected to a transmitting apparatus that transmits news information that contains text, receives the news information from said transmitting apparatus:

receiving means for receiving the news information from said transmitting apparatus;

voice output means for outputting the text content of the received news information as ~~an audible~~ a voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information; and

determining means, when said receiving means receives fresh news information, for determining degree of importance of the content of the fresh news information; and

display means for displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of said ~~audible~~ voice,

wherein ~~the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by voice~~ said voice output means outputs the text content of the fresh news information as a voice preferentially if said determining means determines the degree of importance of the content of the fresh news information is higher than that of the content of other news information which has already been received.

Claims 10-29 (canceled)

Claims 30 (new): The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein it is notified that said voice output means outputs the text content of the fresh news information as a voice preferentially.

Claims 31 (new): The apparatus according to claim 30, wherein said voice output means outputs a notification voice indicating that said voice output means outputs the text content of the fresh news information as a voice preferentially.

Claims 32 (new): The apparatus according to claim 30, wherein said display means displays a notification indicating that said voice output means outputs the text content of the fresh news information as a voice preferentially.

Claims 33 (new): The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said display means displays a caster animation, and
the caster animation is changed when said voice output means outputs the text content of the fresh news information as a voice preferentially.